GREENBELT
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Council Candidates Views Vary On Collective Bargaining Issue

by James Giese

At the sparsely attended Greenbelt East Advisory Committee sponsored candidates night on October 6, the six candidates for Greenbelt City Council discussed their views of the police collective bargaining referendum question that the city council placed on the ballot for the same election. Responses ranged from full support to opposition.

The evening's moderator Sheldon Goldberg, who regularly attends council meetings, noted that the collective bargaining issue suddenly arose before the council. He said he felt like he had come into the middle of a movie. "What is the issue?" he asked.

Council candidate and current mayor Judith Davis summarized the issue as she saw it. The city has always used a process with police department employees known as "meet and confer." During each budget review the council has met with representatives of the Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and discussed with them their requests for changes in working conditions and benefits. This process has worked quite well, according to Davis. She noted that 40 percent of the city budget is directed to the police department and that of the $18 million allocated, $1.4 million is for employee benefits. A lot of the benefits the city provides are not available to police officers in other departments, she said. "We have an excellent police department."

However, the FOP has now requested a different process, collective bargaining. It was council's decision, she said, to leave the matter up to the voters. What the voters decide will be binding on the next city council.

Davis believes that there are problems with collective bargaining. She said that she spoke from her own experience as a member of a teachers union. By its very nature, she believes, collective bargaining is an adversarial relationship. Things will be said on both sides that will be devisive. It also separates the rank and file officers from police management.

Davis contended that collective bargaining will be costly, both to the city and the employees. As a union member, her dues were high in order to support the union's cost for professional bargainers. For the city, she estimated a cost of $50,000 to prepare necessary documents and negotiate an initial contract. The city will have to hire a well-qualified labor attorney, as the city solicitor is not qualified to do this kind of legal work. She estimated such a good attorney's fees to cost $300 an hour. She agreed with an earlier comment that the initial cost for a contract could be higher than for subsequent ones. However, she felt it was possible that further difficulties would develop down the road and add to the city's negotiating costs.

The first respondent, Kelly Ivy, the only candidate to challenge the five council incumbents in the election, declared his support for collective bargaining. He felt that Greenbelters should not be afraid of it. The proposal specifically excludes the use of either binding arbitration or fact finding as means to resolve disputes. Without that, Kelly felt there was no issue. He claimed that the FOP sought collective bargaining because they wanted to see the city's commitments in black and white, in a labor contract. "The first contract is always the hardest," he said. The FOP is not dissatisfied, he said, but they are looking for security through a contract.

Konrad Herling told the audience that he strongly supports the right of employees to undertake collective bargaining with the city. However, he will not support the referendum

See **BARGAINING**, page 10

Council's Resolution Begins Process to Annex Metroland

by Sandy Smith

At its regular meeting on October 10 Mayor Judith Davis called the Greenbelt City Council to order with the effective use of her shoe – a la Khruschev – when the gavel was not available at the start. Council then took another step in the development of Greenbelt West with the first reading of resolutions to annex the south core of Greenbelt Metro Park and the state-owned lands adjacent to the boundaries of the city. Although this action took only a few minutes, its effect will doubtless be longer-lasting than that of any other decision taken that evening. There will be a public hearing and second reading before adoption.

A second item on council's agenda also dealt with land development – this time as part of the Golden Triangle adjacent to the Beltway overpass at Greenbelt Road. Capitol Cadillac, which purchased the vacant property in an area immediately southeast and adjacent to its facility, plans to build two new showrooms and a vehicle storage lot.

Mayor Judith Davis expressed the thanks of the city for Capitol Cadillac's willingness to work with the city on the many aspects of the business expansion.

Ethan Bindernagel, a member of the city's planning staff, walked council through the plan, which includes a 100-foot green area between the storage lot and Greenbelt Road, two outdoor seating areas, attention to lighting details to prevent unwanted spillover effects and a limit on signage.

The expansion project also calls for an interpretive panel explaining the significance of the Walker ruins (site of a family residence from early in the history of this area), protective fencing around the ruins and a dedicated pathway from Greenbelt road to the ruins. It was noted that the county plans to send in staff to do an archaeological assessment of the ruins.

Fire Truck

Council voted to release existing funds of $329,500 for purchase of a new fire truck to replace a 10-year-old vehicle. Total cost of the new truck is $391,818 and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) will make up the difference from other funds.

See **COUNCIL,** page 11

What Goes On

Saturday, October 29
9 a.m. to noon., Electronic Recycling, Public Works Facility
11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fire Prevention Open House, Greenbelt Fire Station
2 to 6 p.m., Rescheduled Fall Fest, Schrom Hills Park
Tuesday, November 1
7:30 p.m., Arts Advisory Board and Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Community Center
Thursday, November 3
7:30 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, GHI Board Room

Trick or Treat On Monday



Celebrate Trick-or-Treat in Greenbelt on Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. Residents who wish to participate are asked to turn porch lights on and apartment dwellers should tie a piece of white cloth on the door. For a listing of local activities, see page 16.

Collective Bargaining Is Third Candidate Question

This week the city council candidates were asked to reply to a final question posed by this paper concerning current issues that the next council must address. Their responses were limited to 300 words. The order in which the responses appear was determined by lot. This week's question is:

Explain why you support or oppose the referendum question on whether or not to establish collective bargaining for non-managerial sworn Greenbelt police officers and is it appropriate to give this recognition, as set forth in the referendum question, to one group of city employees and not any others?

Kelly P. Ivy, Sr.



I wholly support this referendum question. My vote is only yes. The truth is, collective bargaining without binding arbitration is nothing more than meet and confer with a written agreement. The FOP has asked for nothing, no raise, no extension of leave, no change in benefits. All they asked is that the benefits they were afforded be written in an agreement and signed by the FOP and the City of Greenbelt. That agreement can be written by a city employee or a member of the FOP. It's a simple agreement. There is no cost to this agreement, there is only cost in arbitration. I feel that any employees of the City of Greenbelt that wish to organize and seek collective bargaining have that right as Americans. The FOP originally asked that all city employees be afforded the right of collective bargaining in a work session in May. I feel this should never have been a referendum question. Council still has final say with any dispute. If we cannot put in writing and stand for a simple agreement, what are we doing wrong? I will personally vote yes to giving the FOP an equal playing field and a seat at the table.

Edward V.J. Putens



Two general points: First, I do not oppose collective bargaining in principle. Second, however, collective bargaining would not be good for Greenbelt. I do not favor it for Greenbelt for the following reasons:

(1) Collective bargaining tends to create a confrontational, antagonistic relationship between employees and management that we have never had in Greenbelt and do not need. (2) Collective bargaining will cost money to manage, and experience elsewhere shows it will lead to increased costs; therefore, taxes will be higher than they would be otherwise. I do not understand how someone can support collective bargaining while simultaneously promising to hold the line on taxes.

(3) There is no current or anticipated crisis or problem justifying a collective bargaining arrangement. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." (4) The current "meet and confer" system has worked well and helped police and the city to resolve issues. (5) We have taken good care of our police, including good pay plus valuable benefits such as a 25-year retirement plan and take-home vehicles.

(6) Even if none of the above issues applied, it is unfair to give something to some city employees that is not given to others. I cannot in good conscience support collective bargaining for some employees and not others. This measure would not even help some FOP members, as supervisory officers within the FOP would not be in the collective bargaining unit.

My position in no way reflects negative opinions toward our Police Department, which as you know I have always strongly supported.

Rodney M. Roberts



Yes, I support the ballot question to grant collective bargaining rights to our police officers. I believe that collective bargaining alone will have no significant impact on the budget or the budget process. The only real difference from the current process is that there would be a legal contract protecting the officers' pay, benefits, etc. However, the FOP's initial request for collective bargaining with binding arbitration (which I do not support) would essentially take control of the city budget away from city council and place it in the hands of an outside third party. Also, it would require that we spend money and resources on legal counsel that I believe would be better spent to increase salaries and benefits.

See **QUESTION**, page 6

Letters

New Lakecrest Light: To Be Lighted Soon?

Would you please find out when the traffic light at Greenbelt Road and Lakecrest Drive will go into service?

The lights and posts have been in place for several weeks but nothing further has been done.

Accidents are still taking place and we have been waiting for several years for this light.

Thank you for any information you can gain.

W.T. Lane
Lakecrest Circle

Editor's Note: Beginning Friday the light will flash yellow to acquaint drivers with the new traffic control, according to Pepco. The normal three-color sequence should begin to operate in about a week.

Corrections

In the October 13 front page article "Greenbelt Police Team Recounts Experience in Flood Mission" two officers' names were misspelled. They are MPO Barry Byers and Mark Sagan – we want to give them full credit, with the right names, for their beyond-the-call-of-duty post-Katrina relief mission. The News Review regrets the errors.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Christopher Fink, age 10, was celebrated October 22 at St. John the Evangelist Church. The News Review regrets inconveniences caused by last week's error in the date for the service.

School Board Holds Public Forum

Prince George's County Public Schools Interim Chief Executive Officer Howard A. Burnett will host three public forums for parents and the community to express their views concerning educational needs and priorities. This process will assist in developing the proposed school system operating budget for Fiscal Year 2007 which begins July 1, 2006. Public input is sought before the operating budget is delivered to the Board of Education.

The forum nearest Greenbelt is at High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Rd., Beltsville on Tuesday, November 2 at 7 p.m. Public participation is encouraged. To register to speak call the Office of Budget and Finance at 301-952-6382 by 4 p.m. the day of the forum. Each speaker will have two minutes to speak.

Green Ridge Residents Ask About City's Homeless

by James Giese

The six candidates for city council in Greenbelt made their second, and possibly last, joint appearance before the November 8 election at a forum held on October 18 at Green Ridge House, the city's senior apartment facility. Besides statements on why they are running for office and should be elected, and promises to be willing to listen to and take action against any problems the residents might have, the six candidates responded to questions about homeless persons in Greenbelt, development of Greenbelt West and the need for more medical facilities in the city.

Homeless

A resident brought up the homeless issue by saying she had been spending a lot of time at Roosevelt Center and had seen a few things that shocked her. She had learned there were a number of homeless people in Greenbelt, some with children, who were sleeping in the woods.

Mayor Judith Davis, a councilmember for 12 years who is seeking reelection, was first to respond. She said there were homeless persons who love to be here because they feel the atmosphere here is good for them. Although the city has a social service office led by Cristal Batey that can help the homeless find housing, most don't want that assistance, she said. If they don't violate the law, they are permitted to stay. Davis has heard that some residents leave food and beer in boxes for some of them at a certain tree.

Konrad Herling, now in his first term on council and seeking reelection, told the residents that he had talked to a homeless person here who told him that 25 are staying here.

Edward Putens, now in his 12th term on council and again seeking reelection, listed many forms of assistance available to the homeless including food vouchers, medical aid and jobs. "There are just some people that don't want to be helped," he said.

Greenbelt West

Resident Marion Evans asked, "Are you really going to tear down Springhill Lake and will it have the same number of people in the new housing?"

Davis responded affirmatively. She said that the apartment project's owner, AIMCO, is planning to take down the present buildings in five phases. "It will not be leveled all at one time," she said. She told the residents how AIMCO planned to replace the buildings, some with owner-occupied townhouses. (The council is trying for 25 percent of all housing units built to be for sale to owners.) The remainder will be rental four-story apartments and high-rises.

As to the number of new residents, Davis said no one knows how many more there might be. Presently, she believes, many of the larger apartments have families doubling and tripling up. The new development will have a mix of rental levels but the plans are not yet finalized. "It's not a done deal, yet," she said.

A resident complained about current problems when a person is transported by a rescue squad to nearby emergency room hospital facilities to find they are filled. "Will there be an impact on medical services by the added population?" the resident asked. Davis said that issue had not been previously brought up. "It's something we need to look at," she said.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts, now seeking his eighth two-year term on council, pointed out he was the lone nay vote because he believes the density in the development is way too high. He claimed the apartment project had "failed" because of its large size and poor management.

The new development will result in the population being at least doubled, he said. He has been told there will be less kids and crime. "People I tell that to don't believe it. I think we could have gotten more on the deal," he said.

Leta Mach, seeking her second council term, noted that the Greenbelt West area is more than the Springhill Lake project. It also includes the Greenbelt Metro Station property where extensive residential, office and commercial development is proposed. "It will change the entire community," she said.

Putens pointed out that the new development will have more one- and two-bedroom units and fewer three-bedroom units. "We've gotten them up to 25 percent [non-rental units] and hope to get more," he said. He contended that AIMCO is the first company to own all nine

See **FORUM**, page 8

Grin Belt



AGNES CONATY ©2005

"Sorry, but the referendum will not be decided based on which direction an acorn falls."

On Screen

"Proof" to Be Joined By Animated Feature

"Proof" continues at Old Greenbelt Theatre for at least a week from Friday, October 28 but will cede each day's early showings to "Madagascar," a PG, 86-minute animated feature from DreamWorks. Four pals from New York City's Central Park Zoo – a lion, zebra, giraffe and hippo, voiced over by (who else?) Hollywood stars – land in far-off Madagascar, where their bite can be worse than the bark of their one-liners. "Good Night and Good Luck" may replace both films on November 4.

– Eli Flam

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Pat Davis, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Al Geiger.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of OCTOBER 28

MADAGASCAR (PG)
PROOF (PG-13)

Friday
Madagascar *5:30
Proof 7:30, 9:35

Saturday
Madagascar
*1:30,*3:30, *5:30
Proof 7:30, 9:40

Sunday
Madagascar
*1:30, *3:30, *5:30
Proof 7:30

Monday – Thursday
Madagascar *5:30
Proof 7:30
*These shows at $5.00

Coming Soon:
Good Night and Good Luck

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
MEETING OF
GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, November 3, 2005
GHI Board Room, 7:30 p.m.

Key Agenda Items
- Proposed 2006 Operating Budget
- Employee Health Benefits

Regular board meetings are open to members.

Community Events

Explorations – Lifting the Veil

People dwell in tabernacles of flesh and identify with them so completely that when they are assailed by time, disease or injury, people take the changes personally and are forced to look inward. "Lifting the Veil" presents a local artist's attempts to survey issues of self image, body image, aging and the inner lives of men and women age 20 to 80+ through words and photographs. On Friday, November 4 Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Tom Ayers, a composer, poet and abstract painter who will share his experiences in launching this project and what he has learned thus far. He took up photography for this project in the hopes of fostering self-examination and personal growth.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center in the Senior Classroom, Room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before participants are planning to eat to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4125 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for the week of October 31 through November 4 include:

Monday – vegetable soup with crackers, BBQ chicken, home-fried potatoes, peas and carrots, pumpkin pie.

Tuesday – orange juice, meatloaf with gravy, seasoned corn, sliced carrots, fruit cocktail.

Wednesday – grape juice, stuffed peppers, bean medley, white boiled potatoes, purple plums.

Thursday – orange juice, beef stew with vegetables, brown rice, lettuce and tomato salad, applesauce.

Friday – grape juice, sliced turkey with gravy, mixed greens, cornbread dressing, red jello with pears.

Help Remove Invasive Plants

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. Meet on Saturday, November 5 at 11 a.m. at the Sweetgum Picnic Area.

This program will be repeated the first Saturday of every month, rain or shine. Wear appropriate clothing and bring work gloves and a lunch or snack. The invasive plant removal program is a partnership between Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland.

The Greenbelt Park entrance is located between Kenilworth Ave. and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

For information call 301-344-3944.

Korean Film Comes To Utopia Festival

by Andrew Zmidzinsky

Imagine living in a house that floats in the midst of a high mountain lake, hearing the sound of the wind in the trees and listening to the ceremonial chimes in the woods where a young boy and an old Buddhist monk live surrounded by nature. With such soothing atmospherics the film "Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring" unfolds in five starkly beautiful vignettes that line up with the seasons of the young man's life.

Critics have called the film "exquisitely simple," "sublime" and "serene." A New York Times critic wrote that it "takes on the heft and gravity of one of the smooth stone Buddhas that decorate the old monk's house. It seems less a modern work than a solid, ancient object that has always been there, waiting to be found."

The self-taught South Korean director of "Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring," Kim Ki-duk, grew up with very little education in rural South Korea and discovered a passion for painting during a five-year stretch in the South Korean army. While studying art in Paris he encountered film. "One day I woke to discover the world of cinema and jumped into it," said the gifted director. We're all the more fortunate for that discovery and "Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring" is just one of many excellent films slated for the upcoming Greenbelt Utopia Film and Video Festival.

The Greenbelt Utopia Film and Video Festival will be held from November 11 through 13. For more information go to www.greenbeltutopia.org.

ERHS Holds Open Concert

On Friday, November 4 at 7:30 p.m., the Eleanor Roosevelt High School instrumental music department will present its first concert of the school year. The Chamber Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, Wind Ensemble and Concert Band I will be featured at this concert. The school is located at 7601 Hanover Parkway. The concert is free and open to the public. Before the concert, during intermissions and after the concert the Grad Night '06 committee will sell coffee.

Free Shredding Is Now Oct. 29

The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union had to reschedule the planned shredder truck visit last weekend. The truck will be in Greenbelt behind the Credit Union and available for free shredding of personal papers on Saturday, October 29 from 9 to 11 a.m. Greenbelters, whether they are Credit Union members or not, are invited to bring papers for shredding.

At the Library

Tuesday, November 1, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, November 2, 10:30 a.m. – Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, November 3, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years, limit 20 children.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club enjoyed a potluck luncheon on October 19 to celebrate the October birthdays. Winners of the birthday raffle were Louvain Townsend and Darrington Roan. The birthday poem "One Day Older" by Joe Rimar was read.

On October 20 the club had a fun trip by bus to Pennsylvania to pick apples at the Shaw Orchard, visit an Amish market and have lunch, then go on to the Naylor Winery for a tour and wine tasting. We wish more people would take advantage of these trips sponsored by the Golden Age Club. We have lots of fun and visit new places. There still may be openings on the trip to the Harrisburg Christmas craft show on December 1. Many thanks to Karen Haseley who coordinates these trips for the club.

Our sympathy to Irene Hensel on the death of her grandson Christopher Fink.

Greenbelt Park Holds Food Drive

Greenbelt Park, part of the National Park Service, will collect non-perishable food items as part of the Federal Women's Food Drive to help the Capital Area Food Bank. Collection boxes at the park headquarters will be available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and at the Greenbelt Park Ranger Station seven days a week 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

The park entrance is located between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

For more information call 301-344-3948.

Recreation Supplies Needed in La.

The City of Greenbelt is continuing support of Katrina relief efforts in cooperation with the director of recreation in Baton Rouge. New recreational supplies are needed including sports balls, gloves, bats, helmets, volleyball nets, jump ropes, arts and crafts materials, board games and playing cards. Donations can be dropped off at the Aquatic and Fitness Center, 101 Centerway. To support Katrina relief efforts, the city also collected 100 new T-shirts that were provided during a drive by the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association.

Flu Shots at Giant

Flu shots will be administered at the Greenbelt Giant Food store at Beltway Plaza on Tuesday, November 1, noon to 6 p.m. There is a $25 fee for those not covered by Medicare.

GIVES, AARP Present Drive Alive

Everyone is invited to attend AARP's Drive 55 Alive program on Thursday, November 3 at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Sponsored by GIVES (Greenbelt's neighbor-helping-neighbor service), the program will run from 9 a.m. to about 5:30 p.m. with an hour lunch break at about 12:30.

Registration is required and can be accomplished by phoning the GIVES office at 301-507-6580 or by leaving name, phone number and age in the GIVES mail box at the main office of the Community Center. There is a fee.

The program is designed to address physical changes occurring over the age of 50 and how these changes may impact the ability to drive. Included in the program is information on physical changes, distractions, medications and vision changes – all presented to help seniors drive more safely.

Attendees may be able to obtain lower auto insurance rates after completing this course. They must contact their carrier themselves to determine whether this policy applies.

Taking precautions to ensure the safety of loved ones is time and energy well spent.

St. Gregory Church
Holiday Bazaar
12420 Old Gunpowder Rd.
Beltsville, Md.
Saturday, Nov. 5
10AM–4PM

St. Hugh's Church
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday
Nov. 12, 2005
10AM–3PM

News Review Annual Meeting on Oct. 30

The Greenbelt News Review will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the News Review Office in Room 100 of the Greenbelt Community Center. An election of officers and a brief business meeting will follow dinner.

Iraq Symposium
Foreign War
Domestic Conflict
A public debate by
a panel of experts on
War, Security and
Veterans' Issues
Sat., Oct. 29, 4 p.m.
University of Maryland
Colony Ballroom
Stamp Student Union
Tax-deduct. tickets $15
to benefit two Iraq
veterans' organizations –
Operation Truth and
U.S. Tour of Duty



Magpie Walkin' Jim Stoltz
Dean Stevens Bob Zentz
Surprise Guest
Friday October 28, 2005 7:30pm
River Road Unitarian Church
6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817
$12 advance, $15 at the door
$10 seniors and students
FREE to children under 12
--Ticket Information--
Rachel Carson Council
(301-593-7507) rccouncil@aol.com
On Sale: New Deal Cafe (301-474-5642)
121 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD

GREENBELT UTOPIA FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL 2005
November 11th • 12th • 13th
Opening Reception: November 10th • 6pm
at the Greenbelt Arts Center
$20. per person
Advance registration by Nov 3rd required
Featuring a slate of internationally-acclaimed films:
Bright Leaves by Ross McElwee | The Same River Twice by Robb Moss
The Day of the Wacko by Marek Koterski* | Living in Oblivion by Tom DiCillo
Darwin's Nightmare by Hubert Sauper | The Swenkas by Jeppe Rønde
Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter... and Spring by Kim-Ki Duk
Experimental films from the UK, Singapore, US, Canada and beyond.
48 Hour Film Festival Entries, Area Filmmakers, Animation & more!
* Dzien Swira | The Day of the Wacko provided by MGE
$45. Full Festival Pass • $15. Day • $5. at the Door
Tickets ON SALE NOW at www.greenbeltutopia.org via PayPal
Contact info@greenbeltutopia.org or call 301.507.6581
Sponsored by Greenbelt Access Television, Inc., The Greenbelt Arts Center, Christie Digital Systems, Inc.
& The Prince George's County Memorial Library System.
Supported in part by a grant from the Prince George's Arts Council

Obituaries

Victor Nicholson

Victor Nicholson, 93, died Monday, October 24, 2005, in the Silver Spring nursing home where he had been ill for some time. Mr. Nicholson was the husband of Elaine Skolnik. A memorial service will be held later this fall.

Christopher O. Fink

Christopher O. Fink, 10 years old, died on October 18, 2005. He was the son of Gloria A. Hensel and Robert E. Fink, brother of Cori, Bobbie and Brandon and stepmother Donna Fink. He is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends.

Grandparents are Edith Hadaway, Lloyd Fink, Irene Hensel and the late Richard Hensel.

Christopher was buried in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Laurel.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's House, 1505 Cody Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902.



Schools Collect For Katrina Victims

State Superintendent of Schools Nancy S. Grasmick launched the "Maryland Kids Care" campaign to benefit hurricane victims just days after Katrina hit the Gulf Coast. This voluntary state effort encouraged Maryland public school students to get involved in helping those in need.

Schools collected funds throughout September, turning over donations to the American Red Cross or another similar charity coordinating hurricane relief.

The superintendent's office reports the following amounts collected by Greenbelt schools: Eleanor Roosevelt – $8,076, Springhill Lake Elementary – $1,100, Magnolia Elementary – $570; Greenbelt Middle – $476.

Peace Month Event: Iraq War Issues

"The Iraq Symposium: Foreign War, Domestic Conflict" will bring together a panel of experts on the war, security and veterans' issues for a public debate. The event takes place on Saturday, October 29 at 4 p.m. in the Stamp Student Union at the University of Maryland College Park. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit two Iraq veterans' organizations –Operation Truth and U.S. Tour of Duty.

Panel members include the former chief of mission to Baghdad, Ambassador Edward Peck; former assistant secretary of defense to President Reagan, Lawrence Korb; and Iraq veteran Lt. Paul Rieckhoff, executive director of Operation Truth. The speakers will address issues such as the political landscape in Iraq, military manpower and readiness, strategies for disengagement and future options for U.S. policy in the region.

The event is open to the public. There will be a reception after the forum to meet and talk with the speakers and invited elected officials.

For more information visit www.geocities.com/mdcitizens. Tax-deductible tickets can be purchased online or from Greenbelt resident Suzanne St. Cyr at 301-345-1321 or by calling Maryland Public Citizen at 410-551-0867.

Concert to Benefit Hurricane Victims

On Saturday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. Café Tzedakah returns, sponsored by the Mishkan Torah Social Action Committee. The performers – Mark Novak and Renee Brachfeld and The Chromatics, a local a cappella group – are both nationally-acclaimed and will lead the audience in song and merriment. The night's beneficiary will be the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. Admission will be a nonperishable food item. Financial contributions may be made to the American Red Cross. Everyone is welcome. The concert will take place at Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Road. To make a reservation call Robert Goldberg-Strassler at 301-345-8755.

St. Gregory's Holds Holiday Bazaar

Mark calendars for Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. That is the date of St. Gregory's annual holiday bazaar, held at 12420 Old Gunpowder Road in Beltsville. Featured will be Christmas and general crafts, attic treasures, new gifts and a raffle. Plan to have lunch or take home homemade Eastern European specialties: pirohi, holupki, halushki and kolbassi. Visit the bake table where kolachi and other homemade goodies can be found. Admission and parking are free. The bazaar is not open to vendors.

For details call 301-552-2434.

Beaverdam Clean-up Happens on Nov. 5

The new Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group will host a Beaverdam Creek stream and roadside clean-up on Saturday, November 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. Join this new watershed group in improving the health and beauty of Beaverdam Creek by removing trash from both the stream and the Edmonston Road right-of-way. Meet at the entrance to the softball fields immediately north of where Beaverdam Creek crosses Edmonston Road. Gloves, trashbags and warm drinks will be provided. Call Susan Barnett at 301-474-7465 or Kate Levendosky at 202-962-3374 for more information.

Arboretum Bonsai Shows Fall Colors

From October 29 to November 6, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., a special exhibit "Fall Foliage in Bonsai" will be presented at the U.S. National Arboretum. It will feature deciduous treasures from the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum's permanent collection highlighting the autumn coloring of leaves and the ripening of fruit. The exhibit is free.

Visit www.usna.usda.gov or call 202-245-4523 for more information.

Our Neighbors

Condolences to News Review News Editor Elaine Skolnik on the death of her husband Victor Nicholson.



Air Force Airman 1st Class Sarah L. Jones has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Jones, who graduated from Gar-Field Senior High School in Woodbridge, Va., is the granddaughter of Maria Ayala of Kara Court.

Congratulations to Sara Phillips, former CARES crisis intervention counselor, and husband Steve on the birth of Zachary Steven Phillips on Thursday, October 13, 2005, at 2:49 p.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 12 ounces. Sara and Steve are thoroughly enjoying him and getting the hang of being parents.

Lupus Seminar Offered Nov. 5

Lupus Mid-Atlantic is hosting a lupus seminar on Saturday, November 5 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn College Park, 10000 Baltimore Avenue.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
301-474-9410 www.gbgm-umc.org/mowatt
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Handicapped accessible Easy parking

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111
Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School/ Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor
(starting July 3)
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Worship Service: 10:15 am
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)
Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322
Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

St. George's Episcopal/ Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org
An inclusive congregation!
Sundays: 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass
9:00 am Christian education for all ages
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays: 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

Baha'i Faith
"Among the greatest of all services that can possibly be rendered by man to Almighty God is the education and training of children"
– Baha'i Sacred Writings
Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

Catholic Community of Greenbelt
SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
SERVE BREAKFAST
AT S.O.M.E.
Sunday, October 30, 2005
Meet at St. Hugh's School Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

Congregation Mishkan Torah
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.
Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults.
Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children.
Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program.
Opportunity for leadership development.
Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors.
Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities.
Interfaith families are welcome.
Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Learn About Islam
EID MUBARAK!
The end of Ramadan is marked next week by one of two major celebrations for Muslims – *Eid al-Fitr.* This is a time to rejoice and thank God for the reward of the sacrifices during the month. Muslims all over the world celebrate this day by gathering in the mosque for a special prayer and then meeting family and friends to celebrate together. A special charity called *zakat al-fitr* is also due from all who can afford it to ensure that those less fortunate get to celebrate as well.
To learn more about Ramadan and *Eid al-Fitr,* contact us by email at searchislam@mail.com or by phone at 301-982-9463 or visit www.islamguide.com.



Reset your clocks
back one hour on Sunday at 2 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time ends this weekend.

City Notes

The parks crews removed Priority I hazardous equipment from the playgrounds at 7326 Frankfort Court and 7251 South Ora Court, both in Windsor Green, refurbished an existing bench at Schrom Hills Park and installed an Adopt-a-Bench near Green Ridge House.

The horticulture crew planted 1,500 liriope, 175 dwarf nandina and seven hybrid elm trees in the medians on Cherrywood Lane.

On October 15 staff and volunteers planted eight "Adirondack" crabapple trees and three "Frontier" elm trees as part of the county's Peace Tree planting. This county project has the goal of planting 10,000 trees throughout the county. Rather than using trees offered by the county, the city used trees supplied through a research grant to the National Arboretum. The Arboretum will be supplying trees through this grant for planting under utility lines and monitoring their performance as the trees grow. The information developed from this research will be used in future recommendations for planting under utility lines.

The city will be working with the arboretum installing trees at other sites for testing as well. On Cherrywood Lane city crews recently planted seven disease-resistant elm trees of the "Homestead" variety, which were developed by the Arboretum. Later this fall three varieties of red maple developed by the Arboretum will be planted along streets in the Lakewood neighborhood. This will allow researchers from the Arboretum to evaluate their performance in side-by-side plantings under real life street tree conditions. In the spring a cherry variety named "Dreamcatcher" will be planted with hedge maples purchased by the city under power lines on a section of Hanover Parkway near the city's dog park. There are plans to continue this partnership with street tree planting in other parts of the city in future years.

Arts

Staff is working with the principal, faculty and PTA of Greenbelt Elementary School to continue the partnership with the recreation department to provide visual arts programs for GES students.

Recycling Program Changing Vendors

The City of Greenbelt's electronics recycling program is switching to a vendor that contracts with federal inmates to recycle the materials.

There is an initial small setup cost but operating costs should be lower in the long run.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin credits Cindy Murray, recycling coordinator, and William Smith, refuse and recycling supervisor, for setting this up.

Electronic Recycling

The Electronics Recycling Program will be set up this Saturday, October 29 from 9 am to noon at the Public Works Facility. See City Information ad at right.

City Information

Meetings for October 31-November 4

Tuesday, November 1st, 7:30 pm**, Arts Advisory Board and Park and Recreation Advisory Board**, Greenbelt Community Center. Info: 240-542-2057

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Greenbelt Board of Appeals
Notice is hereby given that the Greenbelt Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on
November 8, 2005 at 7:30pm
Greenbelt Community Center (Senior Classroom), 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD

on an application filed by Donald Chomas for consideration of a request for four variances on premises located at 1 Forestway. The applicant is requesting permission to encroach 7 feet into the front yard setback and 17 feet, 2 feet and 3 feet into the side yard setbacks for the purpose of constructing a 1,545 gross square foot addition. For more information please contact Terri Hruby at 301-345-5417.

OPENINGS ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.
Vacancies exist on the:
Employee Relations Board
Recycling and Environment Advisory Board
Youth Advisory Committee
(Openings for adult & youth positions.)
For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71
MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Tuesday & Thursday, November 1 & 3: 10am & 6:00pm "Ask the Expert-Medicare Part D," **2& 7pm** "Greenbelt East Advisory Committee presents CANDIDATES NIGHT" with candidates for City Council, **8:30pm** Labor Day Festival presents the "Herman's Hermits."
PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581:Wednesday & Friday, November 2 & 4: 7pm "GATE FilmWorks Festival 2005," **8:30pm** GAC presents "Shakespeare on the Green-Henry VI part I."

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

NO MORE EXCUSES!
ANY QUALIFIED VOTER MAY VOTE ABSENTEE

Beginning this year, any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by absentee ballot in municipal elections. There is no longer any need to present an excuse for why you will be unable to appear at your polling place to vote on Election Day.

The purpose of the change is to give an additional option to voters and make it easier to vote in municipal elections. If you prefer to come to your polling place on Election Day, meet up with your neighbors, talk with the candidates, and use a voting machine, you may still do so, just as before. But if you prefer to vote early, or if you like the idea of voting by mail or filling out a paper ballot, you now have more choices. Just be sure to vote. No more excuses!

First, request a ballot in one of two ways. Separate, signed application forms or letters must be submitted by each individual requesting a ballot:

- Fill out an application form that you may pick up in the City Clerk's office, request from the City Clerk by phone at 301-474-8000 or e-mail at kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov, or print from the City's Web site at *http://www.greenbeltmd.gov*; or
- Write a letter of application to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, including your full name, domicile address in Greenbelt, signature, and telephone number.

Military servicemembers, their families, and other U.S. citizens abroad who are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act may also use the Federal Post Card Application (*http://www.fvap.gov*) to request an absentee ballot for City election.

Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the City Clerk no later than noon on Monday, November 7, 2005. The completed ballot must be received by the City Clerk no later than 6 p.m. the day of the regular election, November 8, 2005.

Questions? Call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000.



City of Greenbelt

FALL FEST

RESCHEDULED TO
Saturday, October 29th from 2-6pm
Schrom Hills Park
Family fun and entertainment for all!
Pumpkin Patch, Scarecrow Making, Kidcare IDs, Moonbounces, Mini Golf, Facepainting, Hayrides, Kiddie Train Rides, Interactive Art, Honky Tonk Confidential, Fantastic Food and so much more!
Call 301-397-2200 for more information.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST AND PARADE



SPONSORED BY:
The Greenbelt Recreation Department and Roosevelt Center Merchants Association Inc.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH 4:00P.M. SHARP ROOSEVELT CENTER

Join us at Roosevelt Center for this year's Annual Halloween Costume Contest and Parade! Prizes will be awarded to various age groups (infants to 6th grade) for the best and most creative costumes registered in the parade! New categories include a prize for the best family oriented costume and prize for ages 18 months and younger.
All participants will receive candy donated by the generous members of the Roosevelt Center Merchants Association Inc. and the Greenbelt Recreation Department.
In case of rain, the parade will be relocated to the Youth Center Gym.
Questions? Call the Greenbelt Business Office @ (301)397-2200.





ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, October 29, 2005
9am-12noon at Public Works Facility

City residents, businesses and organizations can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items.

Accepted Items Include: *central processing units, hard drives, monitors, keyboards, printers and copiers, laptop computers, computer speakers, scanners, computer mice, software, recording equipment, cameras, telephones, radios, other small electronic equipment*

(NO TELEVISIONS OR LARGE STEREO UNITS)

Also... Trade in your old mercury fever thermometer and receive a new FREE digital thermometer!

For further information, contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8004

YARD WASTE BAGS

GHI HOMES – Free paper yard bags are now available at the GHI Maintenance Facility on Hamilton Place. Bags can be picked up Monday through Friday, 8:00am-11:30am and 1:00pm-3:30pm. Limit – 10 bags per residence.

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES – Leaf vacuum service will begin in November. If you prefer to bag your leaves, paper yard bags can be purchased (10 for $4.00) at the City Office Building, 25 Crescent Road, Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm. Bags are also available for sale at local grocery and hardware stores.

YARD WASTE BINS

Yard waste is also collected in plastic bins/cans marked as "Yard Waste." Free "Yard Waste" stickers are available at the Public Works Warehouse, 555 Crescent Road, Monday through Friday from 7:30am-4:00pm.

The City will not collect any leaves or yard waste in plastic bags!

QUESTION continued from page 1

By approving the ballot question, the citizens would effectively separate what are really two separate issues. Any future attempt to gain binding arbitration would have to stand on its own. The bad side of binding arbitration would not be able to hide behind the good side of collective bargaining. If our other city employees want to pursue collective bargaining, it is their responsibility to organize and approach a union to represent them.

Konrad Herling



Collective bargaining is a basic right of all Americans to pursue, but it should be available across the board to all city employees. As a result, I oppose the referendum question. Why?

First, it is integral to our city's operation that all of our employees work together. We see how important that is during our Labor Day Festival. The good working relationship could change if our employees are not working on a level field.

Second, staff time will be devoted towards "softening" the differences between employees working pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement and those who are not. In researching a case study from the publication "Public Management" April 2005, I learned that Orlando, Florida's employees are divided: 90 percent work under a collective bargaining agreement ("cba"), 10 percent not. Orlando provides extra benefits for the 10 percent who are not, to lessen the differences. Staff here would have to spend more time trying to lessen the differences as 90 percent would not be covered by a cba.

I do support collective bargaining, if it's across the board, as it would enable management to develop longer range planning, e.g., a three-year cba, but can also provide greater security that employees are seeking. Additionally, I would advocate in constructing the agreement that comparison of our employees with other similar jurisdictions includes total compensation, not just salary.

Finally, employees would have the backing of the union in grieving a managerial decision. While the process involving the Employee Relations Board has been a fair one, it still makes a big difference if an employee does not feel that he or she is alone in the process of redressing what the employee feels was an unfair action. All of our employees, if they choose to organize, should be able to exercise such rights.

Leta M. Mach



The city has terrific employees and our police officers do a wonderful job of keeping us safe and secure. In recognition, I expect the city to be a good employer for all employees. However, I do not believe it is necessary to establish collective bargaining in order to do this.

In fact, the evidence shows that the city has been a good employer. For example, here are a few of the benefits the city has provided our police under our current "meet and confer" system:

1. Retirement Program.
2. Deferred Compensation.
3. On Call and Night Differential Pay.
4. Residency Pay.
5. Master Patrol Officer Compensation.
6. Take Home car program.

The city has provided valuable benefits. We are not living in the 19th century and suffering the dislocations and abuses of the Industrial Revolution, abuses that led to corrective measures such as labor unions. The city does not have such abuses and issues to correct.

What we do have is a history of providing excellent salaries and benefits in a congenial way that we need to protect. We do not want the council, the police and other employees to have an adversarial relationship. In addition, collective bargaining will lead to increased taxes or program cuts. It will do so because the city will need to hire a labor lawyer for representation during negotiations. To neglect to do so would be irresponsible. The cost would be at least $50,000, probably more; that's almost a half cent tax increase.

The risk of creating adversarial relationships, increased taxes or cuts in programs is not justified because the city is a good employer. Therefore, I recommend the citizens vote no on the collective bargaining question. However, the collective bargaining question is a binding question and whatever the citizens decide, I will honor.

Judith F. Davis



The City's Meet-and-Confer process, utilized for many years, has worked very well for Greenbelt's residents and the Fraternal Order of Police, resulting in benefits that attract and retain competent, highly trained officers.

Approximately $1.4 million of this year's $20 million total City budget pays for upgraded benefits, including the Take Home Car Program, an enhanced 25-year Retirement Plan, and On Call and Night Differential pay. With Meet-and-Confer, the City has maintained a well-respected, excellent police department – the kind our taxpayers need and deserve.

Collective bargaining is not warranted for a city our size. By its nature, collective bargaining is adversarial. Both sides will argue over every word and number. As a union member, I know how contentious negotiations can become, despite good intentions.

Collective bargaining is divisive, not only within our police department, but also among other departments whose employees are already concerned about fairness and equity. Divisiveness could harm the degree of cooperation that currently exists among our departments, especially during emergencies.

More importantly, collective bargaining will be expensive and time-consuming. It will cost at least $50,000 to retain a skilled labor attorney to protect the City's interests. Additional staff time would be needed for research and negotiations – time taken from other projects. During difficult budget times, these added expenses need to be covered,

See **QUESTION**, page 7

☑ Plan to Vote on Tuesday, November 8 ☑

Elect Kelly Ivy To City Council



PHOTO BY SHARON NATOLI

- STRONG LEADERSHIP
- CONTROLLED SPENDING
- I will vote against yearly, unnecessary tax increases.
- Public Safety and Disaster Action Planning are a must.
- Summer jobs for our youth.
- Increased Senior housing and Senior programs.
- This is an exciting time for the Greenbelt West developments. I'd like to hear your opinions on what facilities you would like to see included.
- Give me the chance to be your voice, you will be heard.

Vote November 8th

Authority: Kathleen Linkenhoker, Treasurer
Contributions to Friends of Kelly Ivy

SERGEANT GREENBELT POLICE — FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE — SERGEANT GREENBELT POLICE

On November 8th voters in Greenbelt will vote on a referendum regarding collective bargaining for police officers. The Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) is the bargaining agent for the police officers.

How will collective bargaining affect you, the local taxpayer?

It has been the contention of some City Council members that collective bargaining will result in tax hikes. No local or state government can prove taxes were raised due to collective bargaining. Local governments use tax increase issues as a scare tactic to sway your vote away from the police officers.

Some people may also believe the Greenbelt Police will strike if they are unable to successfully negotiate with council. Police Officers in the State of Maryland by law cannot strike, and the FOP never has (nor will) ever consider using this tactic as a tool to achieve our goal.

How is collective bargaining an improvement in conditions for Greenbelt police officers?

Currently the FOP has a 'meet and confer' system with Council. Once a year, during the budget preparation process, we sit with Council and discuss pay, benefits, and working conditions. IF we request an item, Council has city staff investigate and study the issue and report back. The City Council then decides whether or not to grant the request. **Currently Council can take away, or modify any benefit we currently possess without any input or approval from the FOP. Council has done this on several occasions in recent years.**

Under a collective bargaining agreement, we would sit down with council and negotiate pay, benefits, and working conditions. **Then both parties sign an agreement, making it almost impossible for council (or the FOP) to change the conditions during the agreement period.**

Some have commented that the Greenbelt Police Officers have plenty of benefits, great pay, and excellent working conditions. This is a NOT an issue of the FOP wanting MORE, but an issue of wanting **SECURITY** in our pay, benefits, and working conditions and a guarantee that they cannot be changed at the 'whim' of Council.

VOTE FOR THE QUESTION

Please come out and support your Greenbelt Police Officers on this very important issue – Vote FOR the Referendum on Collective Bargaining.

For additional information, visit www.greenbeltfop.org

October Is Peace Month



Fifth Grade Peacemakers Can Teach Us All a Lesson

by Elaine D. Jones

It's Saturday morning with no cartoons; my Quaker father says "too violent." At bedtime he tells me family stories about the Underground Railroad.

Peter, Max and I (Henry) gather round our kitchen table to do group homework. "Talk about peace; pick two friends and an enemy to talk about peace," our teacher said. Is she confused or what?

Nobody wants to be labeled the enemy when he's not, so we talk until one of us becomes the enemy. "Blessed are the peacemakers," Peter says.

Max says, "Making peace is a hard job. Hating is easier."

"Peace is so rare, there's a prize for it," I say.

"Hey, how'd you know about that?" Max asks.

"Peter's grandparents sent me a Nobel Peace Prize postcard from Oslo. During World War II all the schoolchildren in Norway wore paperclips as a simple visible protest against Nazi invaders. That's why Peter's worn his paperclip every day since kindergarten, to remind him of his grandparents.

"Heavy! And I just thought you were weird, P.C."

"P.C. stands for Peter Carl, not paperclip, fool!"

"Okay, that's enough! We should beat our swords into plowshares. Micah 4:3."

"What's a plowshare?"

"It's when you plow up the ground to plant zucchinis and then give them away all summer long.

"Get serious, stupid! We'll never get this done."

"Alright – Peace is a dove offering a green laurel branch."

"Yeah, sure, and how many of them do you see flying around here?"

"Maybe they all got ate."

"Geez, Henry!"

"Well, when there's not enough food, wars start. People fight. Hungry people get antsy and pick on the nearest person. Remember those guys snowbound at the Donner Pass?"

"Pass. I got to pass this class – are you two with me or against me?"

"Alright, how's this? Jesus ate a Passover supper with his friends. For 30 pieces of silver, one became his enemy."

"Pieces . . . a kid needs to carry his piece, 'for protection,' he says. But guns kill peace every hour, every day, every night. Maybe the greatest peacemakers in the world are already dead, so what can we do?"

"Who are you, the great philosopher? We get an F on this assignment, you better vanish."

"I'm starving! All I can see on this table is a giant pizza with everything . . . a piece of pizza, that's cool. We could start walking straight ahead and break off a piece to give to the first hungry person we meet, out on the street."

Mom pushes through the kitchen door, juggling Domino's boxes. "Thought you boys might be hungry by now." The almost enemy is redeemed by a psychic mother.

Satiated and thankful, we pick up the leftovers and set off on our quest to find peace. Nobody looks hungry or asks us for food.

In the next block, the twin spires of Our Lady, Queen of Peace point heavenward. "Hey, guys, let's look in there," Max says. Up front we spy a woman sitting in a pew lit by a bank of flickering candles. Slipping quietly into the pew behind her, we see that she's cradling an infant. The baby is greedily and noisily nursing and soon peacefully drops off to sleep.

Our teacher liked our paper. After Max read it out loud, she pointed out how successful brainstorming feeds off each person's thoughts and ideas, however bizarre these might seem when spoken.

I, Henry, think it was my opening sentence that got her: "The genesis of peace is a flickering candle flame that can ignite the world for better or for worse."

Peter thinks she liked his closing: "in times of trouble, Mother Mary comes to me – there will be an answer, let it be." And it didn't hurt that Max, the origami wizard, deftly folded our notebook paper report into a majestic crane to sit on Mrs. Kawahara's desk. (He creates every animal on the Ark to honor his Polish great-grandfather, a veterinarian/artist, who perished at Dachau.)

But Max says we got an A+ because no one of us really wanted to be the enemy.

QUESTION continued from page 6

either by higher taxes or reduced city services.

Council agreed to place on the ballot a binding referendum question that would allow collective bargaining for non-managerial police officers. It is up to the voters whether or not the new Council will institute this negotiating process. Citizens need to study both sides of this complex issue before they vote, for they will be the ones paying for long-term costs and effects.

☑Your Vote – Your Voice☑

☑ Your Vote IS Your Voice! ☑

On November 8

Re-elect Leta Mach



Building on the Spirit of Greenbelt ...and Expanding the Possibilities

My Goals

- Continue to provide excellent pay and benefits for all city employees.
- Monitor development in Greenbelt West to ensure quality.
- Advocate for cooperatives and the expansion of the co-op model.
- Provide services for all age groups to enhance our quality of life.
- Insist on appropriate school facilities for Greenbelt's youth.
- Examine our emergency preparedness plan and work to ensure public safety.

Please call me at 301-345-8105 or e-mail leta.council@verizon.net with your ideas, concerns or questions.

By authority of Alla Lake, Treasurer

On Tuesday November 8

RE-ELECT

ED PUTENS

COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR PEOPLE:

Senior citizens

- **To bring more senior housing to Greenbelt**
- **To support growth of the Greenbelt Assistance In Living Program, to help seniors continue to live at home**

Recreation

- **To complete the skate park.**
- **To ensure expanded recreation opportunities in Greenbelt West.**

Neighborhood Improvements

- **To support continuation of traffic safety improvements**
- **To implement recommendations for additional crosswalks**

Public Safety

- **To implement an emergency notification system, to to reach you in case of natural or man-made disasters**

DEDICATED

SUCCESSFUL

RELIABLE



... STILL WORKING FOR YOU ! ...

FRIENDS OF ED PUTENS

Authority: Sheldon Goldberg, Treasurer

FORUM continued from page 2

sections of Springhill Lake and thus able to remove and replace the entire project.

The councilmembers are all voting their conscience on the issue, he said. "This is not a done deal, yet. This is just the beginning. There are no deals."

Herling said obtaining 25 percent for sale units came about by the councilmembers working together. He admitted that even if there were fewer people per unit, there would probably still be a population increase.

Herling noted a recent design charette in which six distinguished architectural and planning firms participated. He was particularly impressed by one proposal for more high-rise buildings along the Beltway, thereby creating more open space. He also noted plan proposals to mix neighborhood commercial and service facilities with the residences in such a way as to encourage walking over automobile use.

Kelly Ivy, the only candidate challenging the five incumbents, advocated the construction of Green Ridge House Two and Three because the present Green Ridge House is fully occupied with a waiting list. He wants to open up better communication between citizens and the council, he said. Ivy noted that many Green Ridge House residents had lived elsewhere in the city. He said the council needed their advice. "You people made Greenbelt."

Davis said the council was talking about senior housing in Greenbelt West. There also may be an opportunity for more in Old Greenbelt. But not in Greenbelt East.

Medical Facility

Duane "Bo" Bowman asked, "Can we get a medical facility of some kind over there as they redevelop? A hospital, clinic, something?"

Mach noted that the planning called for a town core in Springhill Lake. She expected medical facilities might be one among many things that could be of use to the neighborhoods.

Putens agreed there were opportunities for such facilities in Greenbelt West. He noted that parts of Greenbelt Station have been designated for county and federal buildings. Plans do not show what might go there but developers recognize there is a need for medical facilities.

Marion Evans ended the forum by urging the building of another Green Ridge House. "There is a three-year wait for this building," she said. "It's a beautiful building and we're very proud of it."

Technology Boosts Blood Donations

The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac (GC&P) Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross is introducing breakthrough technology that will allow some blood donors to maximize their donation potential by giving two units of red cells each time they roll up their sleeves to give the gift of life. The program, "Double the Difference," is designed to enhance the donation process for blood donors and will ultimately help to decrease the occurrence of blood shortages across the region.

Blood collection machines will be used for this special automated process that takes approximately 15 minutes longer than a regular whole blood donation process but allows donors to do in one visit what it would previously take two visits to accomplish. While whole blood donors are eligible and encouraged to give every 56 days, those who donate using this new technology will be eligible every 112 days. This is ideal for those donors who have demanding professional and personal schedules but who are also committed to continuously supporting the needs of patients in local hospitals. Other donor benefits include the use of a smaller needle as well as the return of plasma to the donor's bloodstream, which will ultimately send donors away feeling more hydrated than when they came in for their appointment.

Eligibility requirements for participation in the "Double the Difference" program are similar to the requirements for whole blood donation. Male donors must weigh at least 150 pounds and be a minimum 5'1" in height, while female donors must weight at least 175 pounds and be a minimum of 5'5" in height. Members of the community who are interested in this new program can call the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543). Further information is available at the Red Cross website at www.my-redcross.org.

A Concert to Honor Rachel Carson's Work

"Songs for the Earth" a Rachel Carson tribute concert will be held at the River Road Unitarian Church on Friday, October 28 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is sponsored by the Rachel Carson Council of Silver Spring, a nonprofit association dedicated to the integrity of the environment. The organization researches pesticide hazards and methods of low-risk pest management. The other sponsor is M.U.S.E., which uses the force of music to protect the wild by raising funds for grassroots environmental programs. Tickets for the concert are available at the New Deal Café.

For more information contact by phone 301-593-7507 or by email at rccouncil@aol.com.

A Dance Concert At Smith Center

On Tuesday, November 1 at 5:30 p.m. join dancer/choreographer Mark Haim as he moves, bends, twists and leaps to J. S. Bach's "Goldberg Variations." He will be accompanied by Sung-ok Kwok on piano. The free performance will take place in the Dance Theater of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Indecent Exposure

October 18, 2:34 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a woman reported that she was standing in front of her apartment building when she was approached by a man who exposed himself to her and then fled the scene on foot. The suspect is described as a black male, 30 to 40 years of age, wearing a blue shirt with white stripes and blue jeans.

Reckless Endangerment

October 18, 12:24 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a man reported that he was driving in a parking lot looking for a parking space when an unknown person discharged a firearm, striking the trunk area of the victim's vehicle. No one was injured.

Drug Arrests

October 14, 9 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a resident youth was arrested for possession of marijuana. Police observed the youth and another person acting in a suspicious manner. They followed behind a food delivery person as he made a delivery, then entered a laundry room in the same building. When police entered the laundry room, they detected the odor of what they believed to be marijuana coming from the youth. He was found to be in possession of suspected marijuana. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

October 15, 12:21 a.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane, a resident man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. Police observed a group of suspicious persons on foot. One appeared to hide something under his jacket as the police approached. As an officer attempted to frisk the man for weapons, he tried to pull away from him several times. The man was found to be in possession of suspected marijuana. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

DWI Arrests

October 15, 12:02 a.m., 7500 block Mandan Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and reckless driving after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

October 17, 3:58 p.m., Kenilworth Avenue and Old Calvert Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and failure to use a seatbelt after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

Trespass

October 15, 7:54 p.m., Roosevelt Center, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with trespass and a resident man was arrested and charged with disorderly public intoxication after police responded to a report of people drinking in the center. The man was observed urinating in the park area. The woman had previously been banned from the center by agents of the property. Both were released on citation pending trial.

Burglaries

October 14, 4:02 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by breaking out a rear window. Jewelry, a DVD player, two camcorders, video game players, video games, two CD players and sneakers were taken.

October 15, 8:36 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway, it was reported that unknown person(s) possibly used a balcony door to enter a residence. A television, watches and car keys were taken. The car keys were used to take the victim's vehicle, a 2001 Chrysler Sebring, which had been recovered by the Prince George's County police prior to it having been reported stolen. There were no arrests.

October 17, 5:10 a.m., Greenway Center, a witness reported that a man entered Greenway Liquors by breaking out the front door glass. An unknown amount of property was taken. The man fled the scene in a vehicle described as an older model white Acura 4-door with a sunroof. He is described as a black male, wearing a black top and white pants.

October 18, 9:07 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a resident man and woman and another man were arrested and charged with fourth degree burglary after they were observed inside a vacant apartment by agents of the property. All three fled the scene but were located nearby and identified as having been in the apartment. They were transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

October 18, 9:12 a.m., Hamilton Place, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into the rear storage lot of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., and removed two sleeping bags from a trailer.

October 19, 2:30 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence, possibly by way of an unlocked front door. A laptop computer, printer, a video game player, a television and a wallet were taken.

October 19, 4:54 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by way of an unsecured sliding glass door. A cell phone, clothing and a purse were taken, as well as a set of keys, which were then used to take the victim's vehicle, described as a silver 1995 Cadillac Deville 4-door, Maryland tags MZG700.

October 19, 1:39 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by forcing open a bedroom window. Nothing appears to have been taken but the residence was vandalized.

October 19, 4:07 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by breaking out a bedroom window. A video game player, DVDs and a stun gun were taken.

Vehicle Crimes

Three vehicles were stolen: a 2001 Honda Civic 4-door from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane; a gold 1994 Honda Accord 4-door, Maryland tags BTW331, from the 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive; a 1995 Dodge Neon 4-door from the 7 Court Laurel Hill; and a gold 2002 custom made motorcycle, Maryland tags MT2997 from the 7400 block Greenbelt Road.

Five stolen vehicles were recovered by other police departments with no arrests made in any of the recoveries.

Vandalism to, theft from and attempted theft of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7600 block Mandan Road, 7200 block Hanover Drive, 6900 block Hanover Parkway, 500 block Crescent Road, 21 Court Ridge Road, 6400 block Capitol Drive, 9100 block Edmonston Road, 9200 block Edmonston Road, 9100 block Springhill Lane and Beltway Plaza.

The Department is offering a reward of up to $500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

Funds for School Projects Requested

The Board of Education has announced that it has formally requested county approval of funding for a three-year, $125.8 million plan to repair 62 roofs and to replace 112 boiler/HVAC systems in Prince George's public schools. This item was originally included in the board's Fiscal Year 2006 Capital Improvement Budget but action was deferred for further review by the county.

The board is seeking authorization to immediately procure contractual services needed to begin the first phase of repairs in the spring of 2006.

More work can be accomplished with funds currently available if repairs begin this spring. The county is currently considering approval of funding for the three-year plan as part of the school system's board-approved FY06 Capital Improvement Budget.

Greenbelt facilities affected are: for HVAC/boiler/chiller projects, $1.6 million for Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS); $900,000 for Magnolia Elementary School; $420,000 for Springhill Lake Elementary School (SHL-ES); and $600,000 for the Greenbelt bus garage. For roofing projects, $2.5 million for ERHS and $500,000 for SHL-ES have been requested.

Absentee ballots are now available for all voters.

☑☑☑☑

BARGAINING continued from page 1

question as it has been submitted because it only applies to police officers.

"We need people from all departments working together," he said. He would like to work with all employees.

Herling believes the city has a very good grievance procedure and noted that his father had once served on the Employee Relations Board. However, he felt that it would be beneficial to employees to be supported in grievance proceedings by the backing of a union, rather than having to make the grievance on their own.

Following Herling in responding, Rodney Roberts first noted that Herling's statement represented a big change in his position from the last time he had heard it.

Roberts personally prefers the meet and confer process. The main difference between that and collective bargaining, he thought, was that the police officers would have a contract. He believes that it is arguable both ways as to whether the collective bargaining process would be better. Either side could gain some or lose some, he felt.

"I can support collective bargaining but I can't support binding arbitration," he said. He felt that binding arbitration would place control with an outsider and take away council's responsibility to manage the city's operations and budget.

Leta Mach recommended voting "no" on the collective bargaining referendum question. "But if the citizens say 'do it,' we shall do it."

Mach believes that the meet and confer process is working very well. She advocated just treatment for all employees. She rattled off a list of benefits which police officers now receive, such as a 20-year retirement plan, take-home vehicles, etc. The city has been a good employer, she contended. Unions were necessary during the Industrial Revolution, she said, when employers took advantage of labor but that is not the case now.

The last of the candidates to be given the microphone in order to respond was Edward Putens. He said that he has been on both sides – as a union member and as a representative of management. One fact is very clear, he said. "It will cost money." The cost will not only be to the city but to other employees as well, according to Putens. It will be a very time consuming process during the first year for the council and staff. However, whatever the voters decide the council will do, he said.

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COUNCIL continued from page 1

The new truck has a number of improvements, including a light tower on the roof that will illuminate the area where they are working on a fire or rescue. The GVFD responds to about 10 calls per day.

Petition

Betty and Bob Sonneveldt, who live in Lakeside, were at the council meeting to ask for help in dealing with loud and often obscene language from a nearby basketball court belonging to University Square apartments. In their letter to council they outlined their long volunteer service to the city and their community and how they were reluctant but finally forced to take this action.

The court which backs up to their property is used by many players, often until very late hours, according to the couple. They asked the city to apply the city codes against unreasonably loud noise that constitutes a nuisance to other residents.

Davis said she understood how serious a matter it was to have compelled the Sonneveldts to come before council. She referred this issue to the city manager, police department and code enforcement for followup action.

Other Business

Council accepted one sign – but not the other – installed for Commerce Center II. The city, which has covenant authority to approve signage, voted to accept one free-standing sign that deviated slightly from standards but voted to require that a larger building sign be redesigned to meet covenant requirements.

The city issued a proclamation recognizing October as Cooperative Month. Representatives from Greenbelt's cooperatives were there for the occasion.

On a final piece of business, council declined to endorse redevelopment of the Ramada Inn in New Carrollton. There was general agreement that upgrading of this older and run-down property to a Sheraton Four Points with added condominiums and shopping would be a good thing. Councilmember Rodney Roberts, however, felt he did not have enough specific information to send a letter of endorsement. He wanted to know, for example, if there had been citizen input and if there were any objections from the nearby community.

Davis viewed the matter as one city supporting the other in needed economic development. The issue was resolved when council agreed to ask to have a project representative come before council to describe the project and community reaction.

Metroland Access Receives Approval

Maryland State Highway Administrator Neil J. Pedersen recently announced that federal approval has been received for the location and design of Beltway ramps into the proposed Metroland site. The new ramps will provide access to and from the west along the northern side of the Beltway from Kenilworth Avenue.

A ramp into the property already exists from the Beltway heading east and a return ramp bridges over the Beltway to carry westbound traffic along its northern edge.

The new ramps will be constructed between the existing westbound on-ramp and the Beltway. They will cross over the Beltway before and after their connection with the Metro property.

A 96-inch Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission waterline that runs along the Beltway will receive a concrete cover as part of the project.

Once funding has been acquired, final design of the interchange will be completed, Pedersen said, and engineering plans prepared.

New Poultry Building to Be Built at BARC

On September 9 the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) hosted the groundbreaking ceremony for a new poultry research facility at the USDA Animal and Natural Resources Institute in Beltsville. The new $5.2 million poultry research facility is slated for occupancy in May 2006.

The new 28,100 square foot building was designed primarily to house chickens and turkeys involved in poultry research conducted by the Growth Biology Laboratory and the Biotechnology and Germplasm Laboratory at the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). Both labs currently share space in Building 254, built in the 1930s. Poultry are presently housed in other buildings on the BARC grounds.

The new facility will have a U-shaped configuration with one wing designed to house turkeys and the other wing to house chickens. The base of the "U" is where the hatchery, labs and feed rooms will be located. The new facility will be located, appropriately, on Poultry Road on the BARC campus. Employees will also have a shower/disinfection area and a lunchroom.

Montpelier Exhibits Hand-turned Wood

Over 50 unique, hand-turned wood pieces created by members of the Chesapeake Woodturners will be on display November 1 through 30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily throughout Montpelier Mansion located at Muirkirk Road and Route 197 in Laurel.

See one-of-a-kind bowls, platters, vases and more. Woodturning demonstrations will be given every Saturday and Sunday in November from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weather permitting. This is a free activity. For information call 301-953-1376, TTY 301-699-2544.

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Jim Smith, Former President Of GHI, Returns to Visit Greenbelt

by Sandra A. Lange

Former Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) board president Jim Smith and his wife Mary Agnes visited Greenbelt on September 20. The Smiths left Greenbelt in 1983 and have not been back for 22 years.

Jim Smith was president of GHI during the tumultuous early days in the 1970s and 1980s that brought about the $17.5 million rehabilitation of all 1,600 homes in the housing cooperative. The rehabilitation included transitioning from oil heat to individual baseboard electric heat, new energy efficient windows, replacement of the asbestos shingles on the frame homes with vinyl siding and major electrical and plumbing changes – all this while the member-owners remained in their homes.



PHOTO BY SANDRA LANGE

Jim and Mary Agnes Smith returned to Greenbelt on September 20 to visit old friends and tour the city.

Smith commented that he was amazed at how well-preserved GHI appeared. "I am so pleased that what I fought for has turned out so well," he told a group of people who had lunch with him and Mary Agnes. The group included former city councilmember and GHI board member Tom White and his wife Helen; city councilmember Leta Mach; News Review editor Mary Lou Williamson and David and Sandra Lange.

White escorted the Smiths around town, pointing out all the new developments that have occurred in the past two decades, such as the housing and office complexes in Greenbelt East, the Greenbelt Elementary School, the Aquatic and Fitness Center and the Greenbelt Metro Station. Sandra Lange later gave them a tour of the Greenbelt Museum. The Smiths reminisced about how happy they were living in Greenbelt, moving in 1962 to 5-H Ridge Road and in 1968 to one of GHI's larger homes on Greenhill Road.

Looking at the small child's bedroom in the Greenbelt Museum, Mary Agnes recalled that they had had bunk beds for their children Paul and Carla in their own small Ridge Road home. The beds were then moved to their Greenhill Road home. In 1983 the Smiths went to India, where he worked for USDA for two years and the beds were in storage. The Smiths returned to the United States three years later when Jim headed the Dairy Science Department of Louisiana State University. The bunk beds were installed in their Baton Rouge house.

Five years later when the Smiths moved to Minnesota to be near their daughter and her three children, the bunk beds went to their daughter's house. Recently the bunk beds were returned to them but they had no real need for them. So when the call came for bunk beds for the victims of the Katrina hurricane, the Smiths were happy to donate them to a new home.

Jim and Mary Agnes have lived in Maple Plain, Minn., since 1990. Though retired, Jim continues to be a civic activist, serving for the past 12 years on the Independence, Minn., city council. His service on the Lake Minnetonka Cable Commission brought him to Washington, D.C., to attend the National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors.

Tom White praised Smith for his work on the GHI board, saying that Smith's leadership role during rehabilitation bestowed a lasting legacy on the corporation and the city. Smith acknowledged that the many battles he fought for the rehabilitation program helped to preserve the housing cooperative for future generations.

City Is Asked for Support For Funding of Route 1

by Thomas X. White

Mayor Stephen Brayman and Mayor Pro Tem Robert Catlin of College Park attended the October 24 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council to ask for support in gaining the design and engineering funds for long overdue improvements to Route 1, an important thoroughfare in College Park. After a seven year planning process the Maryland State Highway Administration determined that improvements are needed and should be built. However the new draft Maryland Consolidated Transportation Plan for 2007-2010 includes no funds for the design and engineering phase of the project.

To focus attention on the urgent need to continue funding for the Route 1 improvements, the mayor and council of College Park, along with the University of Maryland Student Government Association and others are sponsoring a "March to Rebuild Route 1" on Saturday, October 29 beginning at 9:30 a.m. March participants will walk from the North Gate of the University campus (at Campus Drive and Paint Branch Parkway) and proceed on the western side of Route 1 for approximately two miles north to the College Park Marketplace at Cherry Hill Road. Brayman noted that free parking will be available near the North Gate in the UM lot XX1. Shuttle buses will be provided for the marchers' return trip to the North Gate. Marchers can call 301-864-8666 for further information.

In urging Greenbelt support for College Park's efforts to gain critical funding for the Route 1 project, Brayman noted that, "The I-95/495 University Connector, a road that does not now exist, is funded by the draft Consolidated Transportation Plan, while needed improvements for the oldest road in the nation are not funded." The march is designed to encourage the Prince George's County officials and representatives in the Maryland General Assembly to correct this omission and fund the design and engineering phase of the Route 1 project.

The City of Greenbelt has previously supported the critical improvements needed for traffic and pedestrian/bicycle safety for the Route 1 corridor. Mayor Judith Davis and council noted their support of College Park's efforts and (later in the meeting) added language to Greenbelt's comments on the draft plan that urged funding for Route 1 Design and Engineering and opposition to any funding for the University Connector.

Wildlife Center Shows Sarah Granger's Art

Sarah W. Granger is the November artist-of-the-month at the National Wildlife Visitor Center's Hollingsworth Art Gallery. Granger was born and raised in Waldorf and at the age of 24 has already achieved significant recognition as a wildlife artist. She learned to paint at an early age and throughout her school years her paintings earned many awards and honors from the Maryland State House, as well as from the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program as best-in-show for Maryland in 1999.

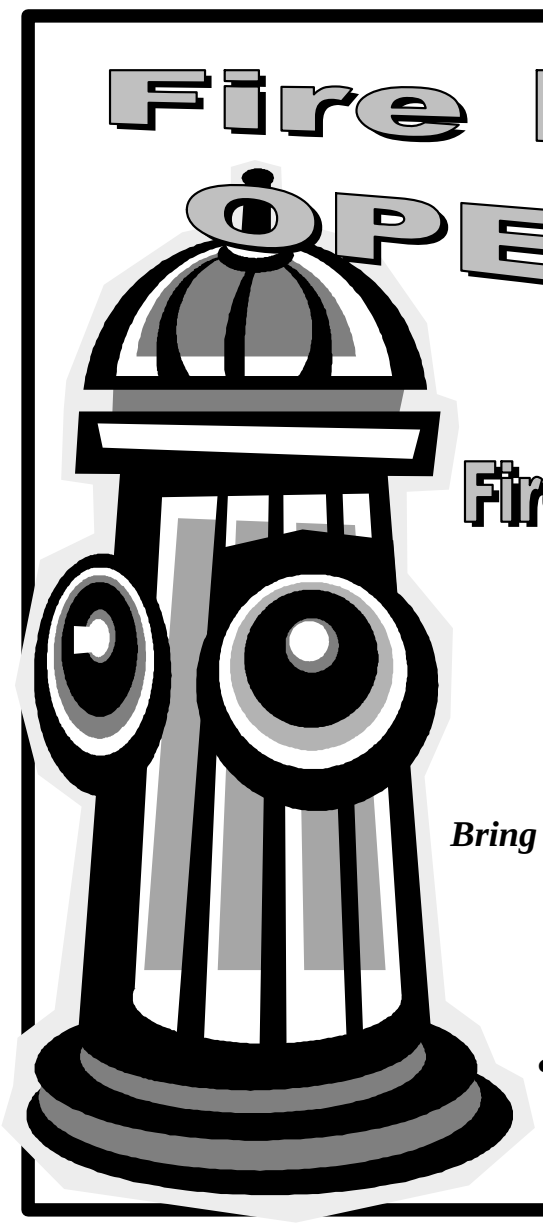
See Granger's art at the Patuxent Research Refuge's National Wildlife Visitor Center during November. The Visitor Center is located off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197, south of Laurel. For more information call 301-497-5763 or visit http://Patuxent.fws.gov.

Arboretum Plans New Chinese Garden

Agriculture Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics Dr. Joseph Jen announced plans for a classical Chinese garden at the U.S. National Arboretum. The China garden will enhance research in oriental plants and flowers while providing an opportunity to experience its unique beauty and serve as a symbol of friendship between the Chinese and American peoples.

The proposed 12-acre garden plans are based on an original design developed by a joint team of designers from China and the United States. The garden will be split into three main components. One area will include a small pond and traditional Chinese buildings with Ming- and Ching-style hardwood furniture, calligraphy and painted scrolls on the walls and will feature a traditional boathouse adjacent to a small lake.

The second component will include an exhibition hall for paintings, calligraphy and other Chinese artwork. The third component will comprise a Peony Pavilion overlooking the garden; a Fragrance Pavilion, which will also house authentic Chinese goldfish; and a Whispering Pavilion, which will include a Tibetan white pagoda.



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City Council Reviews Bypass For Soil Conservation Road

by Virginia Beauchamp

With the planned bypass of Soil Conservation Road around the Goddard Space Agency campus now established to follow an eastern route, the Greenbelt City Council in a worksession with NASA representatives focused on environmental impacts of this future road construction. The meeting took place on Wednesday evening, September 28 in the Community Center.

The busily traveled commuter route from the north, which currently cuts through the NASA campus, has been seen as a security threat by federal agents in the days since 9/11. The road also impedes easy movement for NASA employees who must often cross it, for example to reach the employee cafeteria on the west (or earlier) side of the divide.

Original planning called for cutting off Soil Conservation Road at the northern boundary and carrying it to the west adjacent to the residences in Greenbelt East. But residents in communities to the east, such as Glenn Dale and Seabrook, complained loudly, as this road had become their main commuter route.

Although the eastern route would be longer, with a greater environmental impact, NASA administrators listened to their neighbors and changed the plans.

Environmental Impact

The environmental impact was the main focus of council as they listened to Project Manager Tim Regan present plans for construction of the Soil Conservation Road bypass, now underway. The construction contract was awarded at the end of July to a Baltimore firm, Melvin Benhoff Sons, Inc. and work began about a month later.

The bypass route leads roughly from the southeastern corner of the NASA property on Good Luck Road at Greenbelt Road and curves westward, almost at a right angle, to exit from the northwestern corner onto the present Soil Conservation Road.

A new NASA main gate will be constructed on Good Luck Road somewhat north of the intersection with Greenbelt Road. From this gate to the intersection, Good Luck Road will be widened to four lanes and a sidewalk built along the western edge. At the intersection of Greenbelt and Good Luck Roads additional exit ramps and traffic lights will be put in place.

North of the new main gate, the bypass section will travel just inside the NASA boundary, a mainly forested, sometimes wetlands area, where the road will be reduced to two lanes. No access to the NASA facility is planned for the northern end of the bypass. During the construction process, Regan said, the area will be fenced.

Wetlands

According to a permit by the State of Maryland's Department of the Environment dated April 28, this road realignment will cause the permanent loss of 20,763 square feet of forested nontidal wetlands and will permanently impact 13,174 square feet of nontidal wetland buffer. A small stream, Beck Branch, will also be impacted.

Present-day environmental law requires that such impacts must be mitigated at double the amount of land involved. Thus the state agency followed up with a letter on May 12 requiring mitigation of 41,526 square feet of forested wetlands.

Actual mitigation will be even greater, according to Regan, as confirmed in the letter. A small road within the property that led to a removed facility will be removed as well and excavated. It will then be replaced with a planted forested wetland area of some 43,678 square feet.

This newly created wetland, according to the letter, will provide "habitat for reptiles, amphibians and other wildlife" and will filter "sediments, pollutants and excess nutrients" and help to reduce "floodwater flow." Only native wetland vegetative species will be acceptable. The mitigation site is to be completed – that is, vegetated at a level of 85 percent – within five years.

Councilmembers were concerned that excavation for the new road will result in the loss of some mature trees and Councilmember Leta Mach was interested in agency plans to rejuvenate the forest.

"Any citizen would hope any government agency would do the right thing," Mayor Judith Davis agreed.

Artful Houses Displayed through Oct. 31

Twenty-nine highly innovative house sculptures by artists, architects, designers and art students selected in the national design competition, "Raise the Roof: Recreating Home," are now on display at the University of Maryland College Park campus.

Creative houses, such as a Pink Nautilus Shell-ter, a woven Mongolian Cradle, an icey Igloo and others are on display at the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation's Kibel Gallery and on adjacent grounds through October 31.

The competition and the touring exhibition are sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County.

The "Raise the Roof" exhibition will tour Prince George's County through February 2006, along with special workshops on home-related topics and a county architectural landmark house tour. Upon completion, the artful houses will be auctioned, with proceeds benefitting an affordable housing program managed by the Housing Initiative Partnership and the youth art programs of M-NCPPC.

Visit "Raise the Roof" online at www.pgraisetheroof.com for more information and to cast a vote for a favorite house to win the Peoples Choice Award. Votes can also be cast in person at any of the exhibition sites.

For information and directions to the "Raise the Roof" exhibit UMD location call 301-454-1450, TTY 301-454-1472.

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- Improvement of pedestrian and traffic safety
- Resolution of structural issues with regard to the city budget
- Fair and equitable benefits for all city employees

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Authority: Debbie Cooley, Treasurer

Greenbelt City Council Election
November 8
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- **Voting against yearly tax increases for nonessential hiring and other items.**
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- **Working to support and improve Greenbelt arts programs.**
- **Continuing the original Greenbelt concept of providing a safe and convenient system of pathways for pedestrians and cyclists.**
- **Supporting innovative traffic-calming measures.**
- **Working to protect the historic Green Belt forest.**
- **Responsive to the opinions and concerns of the citizens.**

Authority: Yoni Siegel, Treas.

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Help Plant Trees With Scout Project

Greenbelter Andrew Sillers has planned a tree planting event as his Eagle Scout project. The planting will take place on Sunday, October 30 from noon to 3 p.m. in the open space behind 53 Court Ridge Road on Greenbelt Homes, Inc. property. Sillers is a member of Boy Scout Troop 1033.

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PART-TIME, PERMANENT Medical Records Clerk needed for busy Greenbelt law firm. Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 - 2:30. $10-14/hr DOE. Great job for person with school age kids. Fax resume to Kimberly at 301-474-4468.

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NOTICE

VOCAL ENSEMBLE forming for Christmas Concert at Marietta Museum, Dec. 5. Call Betsy at 301-486-0957.

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Large Corner Lot With Large Shade Trees
This 2 bedroom end unit has been extensively renovated with modern kitchen. Large fenced yard with shed & landscaping. $189,900 U.C.

End Unit With Addition
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Three Bedrooms
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GHI frame townhome with one of the largest yards in GHI. Completely fenced with lots of shade trees. Hardwood floors. $199,900 SOLD

Corner Lot
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GHI End Unit With Addition
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HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Halloween Hi-jinks Abound



PHOTOS BY LINDA SIADYS

The Halloween decorations pictured here were taken at 2-D Eastway, the home of Sue Schwartz and Dawn Sando. As new homeowners two years ago they were disappointed when only 12 trick-or-treaters came to their door. Last year – with a decorated house – they had 50. They're hoping for a great turnout this year.

Spooky Times Are Ahead As Halloween Approaches

by Paul Downs

The wind had never blown with such guile up the flanks of the wooded ridge as Goatman stood in the full moon forest. Hearsay holds that he did come to visit these woods but three months ago; that many of the wood creatures gathered with him; that above his voice the soulful song of the woods sounded as two owls called in the clash of the seasons. Goatman said into the crisping air, "It is that I miss the children, you know. It's been two long, long years, you know, since the last Children's Pumpkin Walk."

With a branch's shadow crossing his woolly face he went on, "You know, the night when the Children of All Ages come to the woods. When we walk down the trail together and share in the vision of Jack O' Lantern faces that light up the dimness of night's birth. It is rumored that after these words were spoken the towering Shaggy Oaks amongst the crowd seemed to bow to Hallow's Eve.

"It is that I miss it all, you know," he said, leaning his head eerily to one side. It was then that Goatman stood higher up on his rear legs and uttered the magic words, "Send for the pumpkin growers! Notify the Phantom, my friends! You Raptors, there," he pointed to two arch-shouldered falcons on a near branch that were ready to help. "Fetch the apple cider kettle!" They thundered off the branch deep into the ragtime woods. Goatman folded his hands as a sleepy hollow wind lifted the hair around his bony mantle. "My eyes thirst for the orange feast," the Goatman said, taking a swig of his Sassafras concoction. "Ahhhh!" he quaked over the ravine, swinging his gaze through the whole of the crowd. "All Ghoulies and Wood Fairies, Raptors and Such, let us drench their eyes in orange harvest glow. Let the hues of autumn sing their song so. Anybody can jump from betwixt trees yelling Boo! Let us show them the elegant wind in the pines and the pumpkin glow too. Maybe, all at once, we'll stand together and see what a simple rippling joy a Jack O' Lantern in the night woods, can be."

And so, that's the hearsay that's been said. You know, just what I've heard from a friend of a friend of a friend So the next day, I go out to the woods to investigate the scene where the supposed Goatman has been. Out in that spot I looked all around and sure enough there was nothing but foolish rumor to be found. I stood in the woods laughing, unafraid and all alone, till I noticed a footprint in the mud. That shook me to the bone.

P.S. The Committee to Save the Green Belt presents Pumpkin Carving and Children's Pumpkin Walk. Friday, October 28, Pumpkin Carving, New Deal Café, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Bring your own carving tool. Saturday, October 29, Children's Pumpkin Walk begins at dusk with storytelling; the walk begins at dark. Flashlights recommended. Walk begins at Northway Road extended by ballfields. Remember to drive gently.

For more information call Paul Downs, 301-474-6708.

Greenbriar Halloween Party/Science, Fun

On Saturday, October 29 "Mad Science" will put on a "Spooktacular" party for children from ages four to 12. The mad scientists will begin their mayhem at 11 a.m. in the Terrace Room of Greenbriar Condominiums. Crazy chemists will concoct slime, produce potions and much more. Greenbriar will sponsor this educational, safe and fun Halloween event.

Attendees are encouraged to come in costume. A costume contest will be held and prizes will be awarded for the scariest, the silliest and the most creative costumes.

Worms in dirt and witches brew will be served. Fun and treats are guaranteed for all who attend. No child will leave empty handed.

There is a fee; space is limited. Call Greenbriar Community Affairs Director Ramona Davis at 301-441-1096 ext. 11 for further information.

Aviation Museum Flight Night Party

The College Park Aviation Museum will hold a Flight Night Halloween party on Saturday, October 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be a fun evening of arts and crafts, a haunted hayride and spooky fun. The seventh annual Flight Night, held in association with the Smithsonian, is a family Halloween party where attendees are encouraged to wear costumes. There is a fee.

The museum is a M-NCPPC Parks & Recreation facility at 1985 Cpl Frank Scott Drive in College Park.

For information visit http://www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com or call 301-864-6029 or TTY 301-864-4765.

Wildlife Center Shows Creepy Critters Oct. 30

The National Wildlife Visitor Center will hold a special free "Creepy Critters" Halloween event on Sunday, October 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Visitor Center, off Powder Mill Road.

All ages are invited to come discover whether "creepy" Halloween critters are as scary as they think. Learn about and meet some "creepy" wildlife – snakes, spiders and more – on Halloween. There will be live animals, exhibits and fun activities.

No registration is necessary. More information is available at http://www.fws.gov/northeast/patuxent/events.html or 301-497-5763/TDD 301-497-5779.

"Costumes on Ice" At Wells Ice Rink

Participate in a fun, safe alternative to door-to-door trick or treating this Halloween at the Herbert Wells Ice Rink located at 5211 Paint Branch Parkway with "Costumes on Ice," Monday, October 31 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Activities include a costume contest parade on ice, goody bags and giveaways. Admission is free for those in costumes.

For information call 301-277-3717, TTY 301-699-2544.

Trick-or-Treat in Greenbelt will be held on Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. Residents who wish to participate are asked to turn porch lights on and apartment dwellers should tie a piece of white cloth on the door. Parents should remember to check all children's candy for safety.

Halloween Safety Tips



This narly three-dimensional witch stands sentry at the doorway of 2-D Eastway, adding to the incredible collection of decorations.

- Make sure all costumes are flame-retardant so the little ones aren't in danger near burning jack-o-lanterns and other fire hazards.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
- Instead of a mask try makeup. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable and they impair vision.
- Kids need to be able to see going up and down steps and crossing streets.
- Make sure costumes are light in color.
- Trick-or-treaters should walk in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins.
- Parents should always accompany children.
- Make sure older kids trick or treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so parents know where they'll be. Tell them to stop only at homes they are familiar with and where the outside lights are on.
- If it is dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and stay on well-lighted streets.
- Make use of reflective tape, glow-in-the-dark materials such as a glow stick in order to be more visible to motorists.
- Make sure kids know not to get in strange cars or enter strangers' houses.
- Make sure kids understand not to eat any candy they collect until it can be inspected at home.
- Feed the little ghosts and goblins just before they go out.
- Check out all treats in a well-lighted place.
- Only eat unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers.
- Persons receiving trick-or-treaters should keep a light on and pick up obstacles that could cause a child to trip and be injured. Jack-o-lanterns should be kept clear of doorsteps and landings. Consider the possibility of using flashlights instead of candles to light jack-o-lanterns. Keep dogs and other pets away from doors so children will not be scared.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Oct 29 at 7:30 p.m. –
Halloween Dance at the
Greenbelt Community Church,
Hillside & Crescent Road
Costume Judging, Cakewalk and Treats!
Come all! $5.00 adults
$3.00 kids under 12 w/an adult

